

# BATTLE OF THE FUTURE TO BE IN THE DARK

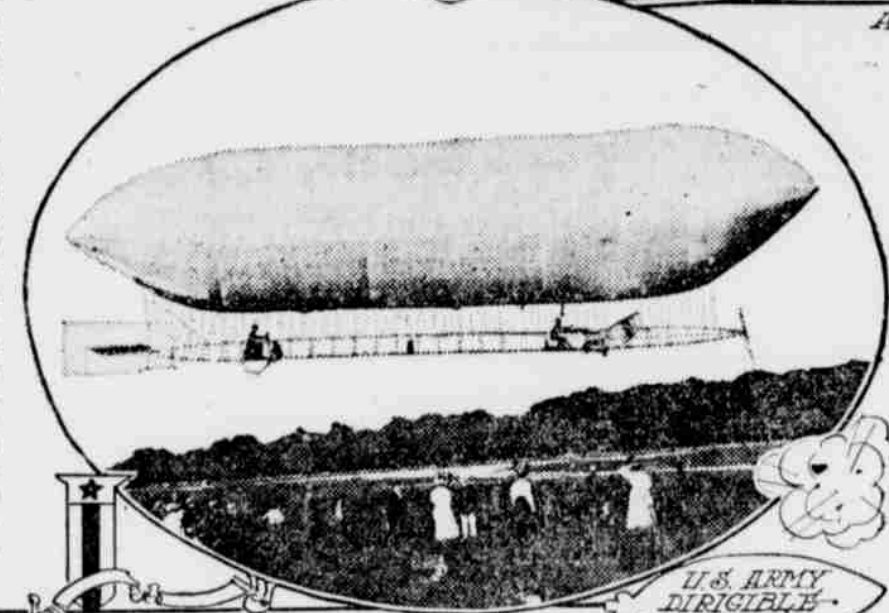
**T**HAT the next conflict between nations will be a war in the air, which will probably be fought largely in the dark, is the belief of certain military strategists. If they are right, then according to present indications the United States would suffer defeat, should it be one of the combatants.

"This government is far behind every nation in military aviation, as we have at present but ten aeroplanes and ten thoroughly trained men ready for service," said no less an authority than Brig. Gen. James Allen, chief of the signal corps. "We have gone slow, very slow, in the preparation of our military sky army for various reasons, because there has been no seeming pressing need of extensive defense of this kind. Realizing, however, what other nations have done toward preparing themselves for aerial conflict, our government is now taking steps toward making additions to our military flying fleet and ten more aeroplanes have been ordered."

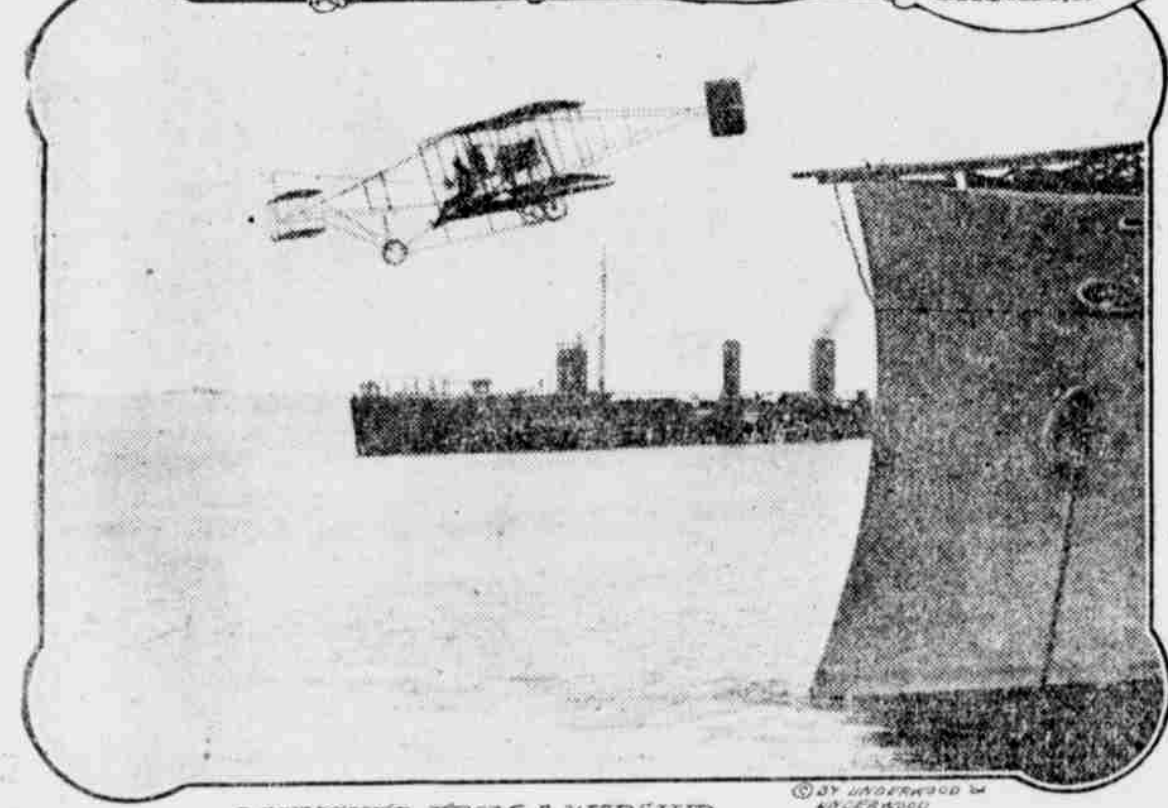
"I hope eventually to see the provisions of the bill for aerial equipment for the army carried out in full. This calls for 120 aeroplanes, in charge of 285 aviators and 720 enlisted men. These will be divided into sections, platoons, companies and squadrons. Two sections will compose a platoon, two platoons a company, two companies a



AEROPLANE SCOUTING



U.S. ARMY DIRIGIBLE



LAUNCHED FROM A WARSHIP

squadron. Or, in other words, a squadron will consist of eight aeroplanes in charge of sixteen aviators, all of whom will be captains or lieutenants of the regular army.

"Each squadron will be in command of a major, who will have two commissioned officers on his staff in addition to the aviators assigned to the machines. He will also have under him a force of 48 aeroplane mechanics, all enlisted men, giving five to each machine, and an extra one for each company."

"To one field army of regular troops there will be three aviation squadrons, one assigned to each of the two divisions and one to the headquarters of the field commander. The squadron assigned to headquarters will be equipped with aeroplanes of extra motor power for long distance reconnaissance. The field artillery will have special machines and in addition there will be 64 machines and 152 aviators distributed among 11 of our coast defense stations."

"Then the Philippines should have two squadrons, or sixteen machines, and Panama and Hawaii should each have one squadron. This sky army will be headed by two colonels under the command of the chief of the signal corps, two lieutenant-colonels and eleven majors."

"The aviation equipment should not stop with the regular army, but the militia must also be provided with machines distributed among its mobile troops at the rate of one squadron for each division of men. The militia brigades must receive their diplomas from the regular army aviation schools, to be established throughout the country."

"Five of these schools, called aviation centers, for our four coasts and the center of the continent—the Atlantic, the Pacific, the Gulf, the Lakes and one central inland point. Each state will undoubtedly have a school of instruction. All of these schools will be somewhat similar to the one at College Park, Md."

"Germany, at the moment," continued General Allen, "has a fleet of about 300 aeroplanes, and still more under construction. She has a chain of twenty stations, which are so placed as to guard her entire frontier and also the area which flanks the sea."

"She has twenty-five first-class sheds with the most modern equipment dotting the landscape at various strategic points. To man her huge Zeppelins, Parsevals and Grosses she has a special battalion of over a thousand officers and men trained in all of the exigencies of aerial navigation and ready to take to flight upon instant orders."

"France claims, I believe, that she has 600 military air machines of all kinds, while Russia, next. Great Britain falls in line with a present force of seventy-one machines and plans and provisions for a military aviation equipment to the extent of 131 high-class aeroplanes."

"Italy has a good fleet of seventeen to which she is making constant additions and is the first nation to make use of aerial bombs and a flying artilleryman. Lieutenant Gotti established his right to a niche in the hall of fame by his daring flight over the enemy at Tripoli when he dropped four of these aerial grenades among the enemy at various points with deadly results."

"Turkey, beholding the devastation Italy has wrought from the clouds, has made rapid strides in the purchase of an aerial fleet of her own and is likely to retaliate in like manner."

"Austria is also waking up to the advantages of these adjuncts to military tactics, and has entered the field of aeronautics."

When General Allen was asked what would be the work of the flying machines in the event of war he said:

"By skillful maneuvers properly equipped and skillfully handled military aeroplanes may wipe out or put in retreat a whole army before sunrise, report to their base of supplies and disorganize a hostile fleet before breakfast."

"Generally speaking, they would perhaps be most effective as scouts, working from different points upon the Atlantic coast, the Gulf coast and the Pacific as coast patrols for observation and supplying information regarding the approach of ships. Acting aggressively they could by assembling in small groups do an immense amount of damage."

"In the event of the existence of war and the approach of hostile ships or transports with troops these scout aeroplanes could prevent the landing of any troops. If each station in the coast patrol had, we will say, five ships, each of which can carry 400 pounds in addition to the weight of the aviator and his supply of fuel, a ton of explosives could be distributed by these patrols while they were going forty miles an hour, and they could return and prepare for another trip if necessary."

"This amount of explosive could be dropped in weights of from 20 to 200 pounds without injury or disturbance to the aeroplane and from safe heights of from 2,000 to 3,000 feet. It should not require many such hints to convince the commander of any fleet or invading army, no matter how determined he might be, that the locality was rather unhealthy."

"The best time for such work as this to be done would be in the semi-darkness of the early morning or late evening, just at dusk or dawn, when it is next to impossible to see an aeroplane, particularly if it stays up a couple of thousand feet. To the aviator and his companion who would attend to the distribution of missiles the outlines of the boats, the camps and even individuals stand out with a clearness that is not appreciated by anyone who has not flown in a balloon. With the ability of the aeroplane to pursue an erratic course by constantly changing its position, the high speed the small ones can

maintain and the heights to which they ascend give them a tremendous advantage."

"The army aeroplane which the United States expects to depend upon in case of hostile demonstrations will carry 2,500 rounds of ammunition, which it may discharge at the rate of 600 a minute. It can travel 104 miles an hour, carry enough fuel to go 460 miles, stay up 11 1/4 hours and climb to an altitude of 12,828 feet. That is what has been done, and what aeroplanes have done they can do again."

"Then the army, like the navy, expects to make good use of the hydro-aeroplane, which may alight upon, skim through and fly from the water as readily as it does from land, and from plowed land as well as from level ground. Its use would be mostly for observation of the enemy at long distances."

"What models are we now using?" "Well, we have only Wright, Curtiss and Burgess Wright machines at present, but when the money is forthcoming it is likely that we will purchase some of the best of the foreign machines. Should the necessity arise the United States would certainly acquire the best products of modern invention to the complement of her own supply."

"Our present trouble is we already have more machines than we have officers competent to handle them. We must have more men who are qualified to fill the requirements exacted for this work."

"Successful aviation is a scientific problem which, like every other wonderful achievement, is only a success after each detail is perfectly worked out. The first great essential in the practical use of aviation in military tactics lies in the necessity for safety in flying."

"What would be the use of the government spending money to train officers and soldiers to the fine point necessary for successful airmen only to have them meet mishap and death, to say nothing of the losses through the destruction of valuable machines representing the outlay of thousands of dollars. Flying may be, will be, as safe as any other mode of travel."

"This is one of the problems which our government experts are working upon now. They have already settled upon automatic arrangements which should materially lessen the number of mishaps and fatalities. It is the unexpected which happens, taking a man off his guard for an instant, which experience and study will avert."

General Allen believes that the requirements for an army aviator include physical perfection. Only commissioned officers of the army and militia need apply and before they can be admitted to any of the aviation schools they must pass a rigorous physical examination."

To forecast what the war of the future may mean it is only necessary to look over the field of modern invention in the production of death-dealing weapons."

Battles will be fought in the clouds with machine rifles which throw out streams of bullets, aerial torpedoes which may be released by levers strapped to the feet of the aviator, bombs of powerful explosive which can tear men and horses to bits and the German aero guns which send down brittle bombs containing 150 pounds of chemicals that upon exploding fill the atmosphere with poisonous gases calculated to kill every living thing within 500 yards."

To overcome the disadvantages of the darkness there is an electrically controlled search light which may be suspended hundreds of feet below the airship and thus illuminate for a brief time the area of attack. Thus the flying artilleryman may see just where he wants his fire to strike, while he remains safe in his iron or steel sheathed ship high above the danger of being seen or hit. Then there is a bomb which leaves a trail of smoke by day and a line of fire at night to mark its course."

For disabling aces from the ground there is the American automobile gun, said to be able to discharge 2,000,000 bullets an hour, requiring but two men to handle it and performing the work of thirty regiments, besides many others for vertical firing. The Japanese have a poisonous gas filled bomb which will explode and fill the air with fumes guaranteed to overcome any airman within 100 yards of its explosion."

According to some strategists the next war will be thrashed out largely by airships and most probably in semi-darkness. In the late twilight of evenings and in the gray dawn the airships will come forth from their sheds and hangars to pursue their stealthy flights of observation and destruction."

With the twinkling lights of the campfires of the enemy, the solitary signals of approaching ships or the vague black shapes of the scattered houses in some sleeping village all open to their observation they can swiftly and silently steal along overhead and fire their missiles of destruction upon the unsuspecting enemy and soar away out of reach before there is any possibility of their being seen or damaged."

With the accuracy which, constant target practice gives even a small fleet of these instruments of war can accomplish great destruction with their dropping shells and bombs. When these winged foes meet in contest it will be to the fleet that is the swiftest and more daring that the victory will belong."

## EMULATES ROMEO; TAKEN FOR BURGLAR

### Sweetheart of Ribbon Salesman Explains to Judge Just How It All Happened.

New York.—When Reginald Mulhane was called to the bar in the Yorkville police court he had all he could do to hobble along on a cane. He was slight and undersized and with a meekness of feature that made the magistrate look up with surprise when he read on the complaint, "Attempted burglary." Close behind Mulhane stood a comely woman in the throes of a bad attack of tears. She was supported by a buxom middle-aged woman with a purple-plumed hat, who was dividing her time between patting the tearful one sympathetically on the shoulder and sniffing disdainfully at Policeman Buchmeller, who had Reginald in charge.

"I found this man in the rear of the premises occupied by Jasper Bates, in East 74th street," recited Buchmeller. "He was sliding down a rope attached to a second-story win-



Arrested Him for Attempted Burglary

dow. He could not give an account of himself, and I arrested him for attempted burglary."

"Indeed, he's no burglar, judge," sobbed the tearful one.

"How do you know?" asked the magistrate.

"He's my sweetheart, judge, and he never done a thing like that in his life."

"You never can tell," said the magistrate. "Have you any better evidence?"

"I'm Rose Finnegan and I'm the second maid at Mrs. Bates," she said, "and this lady here is the cook, Mrs. Reilly. This gentleman here he sells ribbons downtown and he's been my steady company for months. He was good, steady company, but all he could do was to sit still and play with his hat. There wasn't any romance at all to it, judge. He takes me to a play the other night and that gave me an idea. I started to teach him how to be romantic. I told him instead of coming to the basement door and ringing the bell, just as though he was bringing some groceries instead of candy, he ought to climb up on a balcony or do something like that."

"He did not want to do it. He said that he was not up to those things. I said he would have to do it or I would go out with the fireman around the corner."

"He said he guessed he'd have to do it, but I would have to pick out something easy. I told him all he'd have to do would be to climb up a rope to my window, and the cook and I would help him."

"When it was time for me to call cook and I dropped a clothline to him and he started to climb up. He said it hurt his hands, but we told him to keep on trying and then he fell and hurt his ankle, and this policeman grabbed him."

"All the lady said is straight, judge," declared Reginald. "I did not want to do this stunt, but I could not let that fireman get ahead of me."

"I guess I made a mistake," said Buchmeller. "This guy didn't look like a burglar to me anyhow, and, besides, I know that fireman and I don't like him either."

"Seeing that everybody is satisfied," said the magistrate, "the case is dismissed."

**Some Eater**  
Ithaca, N. Y.—The local Italian colony claims the champion spaghetti eater of America as the result of a contest held at a picnic to observe St. Agostino's day. He is Leandro Alessandro, who consumed two pounds of the national dish in 18 minutes without taking a drink of water. Alessandro, who weighs 140 pounds, then entered the pie-eating contest and won second prize.

**Keeps His Promise.**  
New York.—Friends of George J. Gordon, a Brooklyn merchant, learned that he had married his mother-in-law a year ago to keep a promise he had made his wife before she died.

**One Judge's Advice.**  
Omaha, Neb.—"If women and girls would wear old-fashioned hoop skirts and bustles, mashers would be discouraged," said District Judge Chas. Leslie.

## NO TROUBLE IN COLLECTING

### Lawyer Probably Was Willing to Pay More Than \$10 Under the Circumstances.

A noted lawyer of Tennessee, who labored under the defects of having a high temper and of being deaf, walked into a court room presided over by a younger man, of whom the older practitioner had a small opinion.

Presently, in the hearing of a motion, there was a clash between the lawyer and the judge. The judge ordered the lawyer to sit down, and as the lawyer, being deaf, didn't hear him and went on talking, the judge fined him \$10 for contempt.

The lawyer leaned toward the clerk and cupped his hand behind his ear. "What did he say?" he inquired.

"He fined you \$10," explained the clerk.

"For what?"

"For contempt of this court," said the clerk.

The lawyer shot a poisonous look toward the bench and reached a hand into his pocket.

"I'll pay it," he said. "It's a just debt."—Saturday Evening Post.

**Hairy Food.**  
A traveling man stopped at a hotel recently, said the Cassidy Times. He found a hair in the honey. He went to the proprietor and kicked. "I can't help it," said the landlord. "I bought it for combed honey." The next day the traveling man found a hair in the ice cream, but the landlord said that was all right, as the ice had been shaved. Again he found a hair in the apple pie. This surprised the landlord greatly. "Why," said he, "they told me those apples were Baldwins."—Kansas City Journal.

**A Guess.**  
"Why did Maud want to go into the garden, sis?"  
"I suppose, dear child, she thought Sweet William was there."

### A HIDDEN DANGER

It is a duty of the kidneys to rid the blood of uric acid, an irritating poison that is constantly forming inside.

When the kidneys fail, uric acid causes rheumatic attacks, headache, dizziness, gravel, urinary troubles, weak eyes, dropsy or heart disease.

Doan's Kidney Pills help the kidneys fight off uric acid—bringing new strength to weak kidneys and relief from backache and urinary ills.

**A Misunderstanding**  
Mrs. H. J. Hunsicker, 204 Madison St., St. Charles, Mo., says: "I was miserable from backache, pains in my head, dizziness and a sensitiveness in the small of my back. My ordinary housework was a burden. Doan's Kidney Pills corrected these troubles and removed annoyance caused by the kidney secretions. I have much to thank Doan's Kidney Pills for." Get Doan's at Any Drug Store, 50c a Box.

**DOAN'S KIDNEY PILLS**  
FOSTER-MILBURN CO., Buffalo, New York

## Resinol clears away pimples

**B**ATHE your face for several minutes with hot water and Resinol Soap and very gently apply a little Resinol Ointment. In a few moments wash off again with more Resinol Soap and hot water, finishing with a dash of cold water to close the pores.

Do this once or twice a day, always using Resinol Soap for toilet and bath and see how quickly pimples and blackheads vanish, and your skin becomes clean, clear and velvety.

Resinol is also most effective for itching skin troubles.

Your druggist sells Resinol Soap (5c) and Ointment (5c), or mailed on receipt of price. Resinol Chemical Company, Baltimore, Md.



## The Wretchedness of Constipation

Can quickly be overcome by **CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS**.

Purely vegetable—act surely and gently on the liver. Cure Bilelessness, Headache, Dizziness, Indigestion. They do their duty. SMALL PILL, SMALL DOSE, SMALL PRICE. Genuine must bear Signature.

**Resinol**

**PARKER'S HAIR BALM**  
Cleanses and beautifies the hair. Promotes a luxuriant growth. Never fails to restore gray hair to its youthful color. Prevents hair falling out. 50c and \$1.00 at all druggists.

**FOR ALL EYE PAINS** **Pettit's Eye Salve**

**PATENTS**  
Readers of this paper desiring to buy anything advertised in its columns should insist upon having what they ask for, refusing all substitutes or imitations.